



The Learning Lamp

Where Military Experience and Public Education Meet

Arizona Troops to Teachers

Volume I Issue 3

July 2006

Director's Message

As the summer of '06 is upon us, I hope all of you enjoy a reprieve and some "R-n-R" time. It has been great hearing from some of you on your travels to such places as Taiwan, Thailand, Germany, England, and Hawaii. Brings me to recall the many places I was able to see during my Navy deployments. Of course in "those days" it was about "letting loose" if you will. But so much of those experiences brought so much more to my classroom.

Like Bob Jameson mentions in the Troops video, the students build excitement about the world around them, beyond their classroom walls, beyond the lives they live in their home, beyond the X-box and mainstream media. Just one of those little "extras" that only a Troop to Teacher can bring to the learning environment; one of the many aspects that sets you head and shoulders apart, and let me also say above the "average" teaching force. You have many added dimensions that help influence your students development, which carry beyond academic. You are all special teachers committed beyond reproach

to being the best educators and meeting the needs of your students on what seems to be a never ending journey.

I hear from those of you who continue teaching summer school or take other paths that keep you "in the zone." Well, let me just say all of you are always in the zone and are unmatched. The things going on in your classrooms across our state do not go unnoticed. Manny Gatica, math chair at Wade Carpenter Middle School in Nogales, proves that we *Beat the Odds*. I recommend you review the *Beat The Odds* study at www.arizonafuture.org. Three students at Chinle HS now receive annual \$40,000 scholarships for Embry-Riddle University thanks to Amos Chiarappa. His innovative style and cooperation in partnering with community assets led to the his student team being the first Native American student team in 17 year history of the [FIRST Robotics](#) competition. Visit the web page for [Chinle HS Robotics](#). Ramona Ramirez has been selected as the new principal at Borman Middle School in Cartwright ESD (Phoenix). Best of



Arizona Dept of Education
Tom Horne, Superintendent of
Public Instruction

luck Ramona in your new venture! Jacqui Clay was runner-up for Cochise County Teacher of the Year. Way to go Jacqui! Keep up the great work with the Center for Academic Success. Louis Vannhook was selected as Carpe Diem's 2006 PLIP recipient for demonstrating best practices in the four domains of teaching (Planning and Preparation, Learning Environment, Implementation, and Professional Growth) in addition to the 6 pillars of character - Trustworthiness, Responsibility, Respect, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship.

I know there are many more of you that I did not mention for doing great things with your students. For not publicly mentioning you here, I apologize.

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Important Info/Dates:

- Please review your fingerprint card expiration date
- **SEI Provisional Endorsement requirements must be met by August 31, 2006**
- For many teachers, you must meet highly qualified by the end of SY05-06
- **PLEASE Notify this office is you contract, move, change email, etc.**

Director's Travel Schedule

Flagstaff Certification Office,
2384 Steves Blvd, Rm #137,
Flagstaff, AZ 86004
(928) 679-8117

August 25, October 27, December 29

Tucson Certification Office,
400 W. Congress St. #118,
Tucson, AZ 85701
(520) 628-6326

July 28, September 29, November 24

- July 16-23: DoD World-wide Education Symposium, Orlando
- September 14-17: National Guard Association Conference, Albuquerque

In the News: AZ TTT Gene Noel - featured in the AZ Republic ([Click here](#)).

Also, read AZ TTT Pete Pederson's "In Their Own Words...." in the July TTT Connections

CERTIFICATION NEWS

Fingerprints



As you are probably aware, Arizona Revised Statute A.R.S. §15-534(A) requires that a person who applies for a certificate shall have a valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Department of Public Safety. A.R.S. §12-534(B) requires that "A person who is certified...shall maintain a valid fingerprint clearance card during the valid period of the person's certificate or certificates."

It is the individual teacher's responsibility to maintain current fingerprint cards for the duration of any certification. Teachers found to be teaching without a valid fingerprint card may be reported to the hiring district and may be suspended without pay until a valid fingerprint card is obtained.

In the near future you may start receiving email notification from this office a month or two before your fingerprint expires, as a friendly reminder to update your fingerprint card.

To obtain an application packet for fingerprint clearance card, contact the Arizona Department of Public Safety. A fee of \$52 (check or money order only) is required. Note that in many locations, your local police department will "roll" your fingerprints for a nominal fee. It is suggested that you check with your SRO (on campus police officer) who will usually provide the service at no charge. Also, if you have base access, Security will usually do this for you at no charge. Base phone numbers:

Luke AFB, 623-856-1110

D-M AFB, 520-228-3500

Ft Huachuca, 520-538-2102

MCAS Yuma, 928-269-2361

Department of Public Safety:

PO Box 18390

Phoenix, AZ 85005

602-223-2279

Career & Technical Education

If you have a provisional CTE certificate, please review the requirements to renew or convert. There are a number of different options available for CTE and understanding the requirements can often be confusing. We are always available to offer guidance, so don't hesitate to contact the office to review your records. All CTE certifications require you to pass the secondary professional knowledge AEPA within the 2 year provisional period. All provisional CTE certifications also require a set number of credits to be accumulated during the provisional period. Some provisional certifications require only professional knowledge (education-pedagogy) credits while others require both professional knowledge and subject knowledge.

CTE is the only teaching certificate available without having a bachelor's degree. Northern Arizona University has developed programs for

undergraduate and graduate degrees in Career and Technical Education. If you have a bachelor's degree and have a provisional CTE certificate you may be interested in NAU's online M.Ed in CTE. NAU also offers a variety of undergraduate degrees in CTE fields. The Occupational Education degree might be of interest to many of you.

The B.S.Ed. in Career and Technical Education, Occupational Education emphasis degree is designed for those who do not desire to be Secondary Education certified in the State of Arizona. **This program is an online degree.** However, the program can be customized to meet certification requirements in certain situation. Contact a faculty member for more information. This degree is designed for those who have occupational work experience or have occupational courses at a community college and are seeking a Bachelors degree and

for those with career goals outside of secondary teaching. Many students who pursue this degree are already CTE or "vocational" certified in the State of Arizona. Others are working in business and industry and desire an occupational education degree.

This degree has options for alternative forms of credit such as taking a NOCTI examination (35 credits) and/or by providing evidence of occupational work experience (18 credits) A combination of the NOCTI, occupational experience and coursework can be used to fulfill the 53 hours of the major requirements. The CTE courses are all online. The liberal studies can be take online or transferred from the community college. Note: A maximum of 64 credits can be transferred to NAU.

More info: www4.nau.edu/cte



Middle School

I know those are evil words to many of you. However, for others the middle grades offer the most rewarding experience of ones teaching career. As you know the state offers elementary (K-8) and secondary (7-12) certification. If you teach in the "overlapping" grades, I recommend you take note of issues of being appropriately certified and highly qualified. If you

teach a content area in grade 7 or 8, you must be appropriately certified. This means that the content (subject) should be listed on your certification under the approved are section.

NES (the AEPA testing company) is currently designing middle grade content assessments for certification. Some of you already have taken the "new" middle grade math APEA

for certification. Middle Grade Science, Social Studies, and English (Language Arts) AEPA assessments will be available in April 2007. If you hold a valid elementary certificate, you may apply to have the approved middle grade content added to your certification with applicable credits. Holders of valid secondary certificates must take the current AEPA for the secondary content. See the attached "flyer" for more information.

Also, if you are teaching or have taught in grade 5, 6, 7, 8 or 9, I recommend you review the requirements for the Middle Grade Endorsement. One year experience in grades 5 through 9 along with courses in adolescent psych and middle grade curriculum satisfy the endorsement requirement.

You may view/download endorsement requirements at: www.ade.az.gov/certification/requirements/Endorsements

Performance Assessment

Beginning September 1, 2006, teachers obtaining their initial teaching certification will be required to pass the Performance Assessment to convert to a Standard six year certification. The Performance Assessment will require a video tape of one's teaching, written commentary, and supporting evidence. Descriptions of the process and materials and methods to support new teachers who will be affected are being developed.

The Performance Assess-

ment is for the purpose of licensure and quality assurance that new teachers can demonstrate competence in the Arizona Professional Teaching Standards. The Assessment will not replace building principal observations and evaluations which serve for purposes of continued employment. Just as students are given a number of opportunities to pass AIMS, teachers will be allowed to attempt the Performance Assessment up to five times. We recommend testing in third year of career to allow opportunity to

practice and refine initial teaching skills.

Until September 1, 2006, two years full time, verified teaching experience will suffice in lieu of the Performance Assessment to convert any Provisional Certificate to Standard Certificate. Questions concerning Performance Assessment can be addressed to Lisa Kelley, Education Program Specialist, Highly Qualified Professionals, lisa.kelley@azed.gov, (602) 364-2191, or the [AZ Troops to Teachers State Director](http://AZTroopsToTeachers.org).

Note:
The "roll out" date For the Performance Assessment has been changed from June 1st to September 1, 2006

[FAQ's](#)

Social Studies Standards

The Department of Education, School Effectiveness Division, recently updated the web page that includes the state standards for social studies. There are now links articulated by grade level as well as a "crosswalk" to compare the old and new standards.

I urge you to review the standards closely as the changes are significant and across all grade levels.

www.ade.az.gov/standards/sstudies

I recommend you also utilize the Social Studies Resource Page:

www.ade.az.gov/SBTL/sdi/socstudies.asp

Arizona Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference: October 27, 2006 at ASU West.

www.azsocialstudies.org

National Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference: December 1-3, 2006, Washington, D.C.

www.ncss.org

VA Reimbursement for National Board Certification

The Department of Veterans Affairs is currently allowing reimbursement to eligible veterans up to \$2000 for National Board Certification fees. To receive this benefit, veterans must be eligible for Montgomery GI Bill, VEAP, or DEA (Dependent's Education Assistance). The reimbursement will cover the initial attempt and any subsequent "retakes". The National Board Certification is the highest credential in the teaching profession. It is a voluntary, rigorous performance based assessment that measures what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do. The process takes between one and three

Years to complete. Teachers who achieve National Board Certification may also be eligible for additional financial support from local school districts and the state.

For more information on becoming a National Board Certified Teacher call 1-800-22TEACH, visit www.nbpts.org, or contact Lisa Kelley at the AZ Department of education (602) 364-2191 lkelly@ade.az.gov.

For information on reimbursement and the application, contact 1-888-GI-BILL-1 or visit

www.gibill.va.gov

Alternative Secondary Path To Certification (ASPC)

Still haven't earned your teaching certification? Do you desire to teach high school? Well, Arizona's pilot program "Alternative Secondary Path to Certification" just may be what you've been waiting for. You may have read about this same program in the *Arizona Republic* in their sensationalized term "Instant Teacher." Though you are not an instant teacher, this particular program has many facets that bridge mid career changers, such as our Troops, to classroom teachers. Benefits of the program include:

- Teach immediately following the summer training program and receive full

teacher salary and benefits

- Tuition reimbursement may be available if you teach in a high need school and meet certain other requirements.

Requirements:

- Bachelor's Degree or above
- 3.0 or higher GPA
- Passing score on the Subject Knowledge AEPA
- Valid fingerprint card
- "Letter of Intent to Hire" from a participating school district

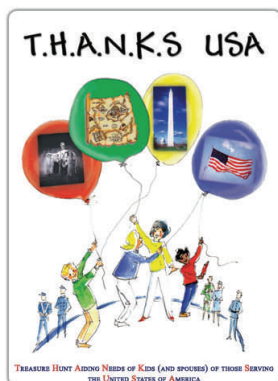
Participating Districts:

- Kayenta USD
- Deer Valley USD
- Glendale Union HSD
- Phoenix Union HSD
- Buckeye Union HSD
- Gila Bend USD
- Higley USD
- Paradise Valley USD
- Peoria USD
- Tempe Union HSD
- Tolleson Union HSD

- Omega Academy

For more information, visit www.ade.az.gov/asd/altpath

Dependent's Scholarships



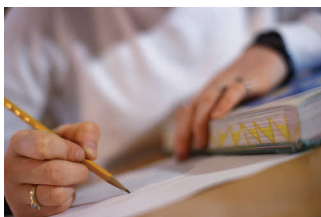
ThanksUSA (Treasure Hunt Aiding Needs of Kids (and spouses) of those Serving the United States of America) awards up to 3,000 scholarships to spouses and children of active duty service members. Annual scholarships range from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Scholarships may be used for undergraduate study at an accredited two year or four year institution. Applicants must plan to enroll full-time in an accredited two-year or four-year college, university, vocational school or technical school. They must also

have at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent on their relevant academic record (e.g., high-school record for incoming freshmen or post-secondary school record for those already enrolled in a college, university or vocational/technical school). The next application period will be April 1 through May 30, 2007.

www.thanksusa.org/main/scholarships.html



Teacher Prep Programs



What Program Should You Choose to Become a Teacher in Arizona? Let the Troops to Teachers staff offer suggestions/guidance.

You may recall from the last newsletter, I outlined a military friendly program through Grand Canyon University. I would like to point out another program. Project REACH (Responding to Educational Communities with High Needs) is a University of Phoenix program for those desiring to pursue a new career in teaching (elementary, secondary,

or special education). The program culminates in a Master of Arts in Education degree. Military retirees are one target audience of Project REACH. Being a master's degree program, candidates must already possess a bachelor's degree in an area other than education. One requirement of the program is that candidates must be willing to teach for three consecutive years in an

approved high need district in Arizona, Hawaii, Nevada or American Samoa. The program offers a stipend of \$5,000, waiver of application fees and waiver of rEsource fees.

www.uopx.com/projectreach

1-800-366-9699, ext 72834



Veteran's News...

Obtaining Your Military Records

If you've been discharged from military service, your personnel files are stored at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). ANRA is the official repository for records of military personnel who have been discharged from the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Coast Guard. Military personnel records are primarily administrative records and can contain information such as enlistments/appointments, duty stations and assignments, training/qualifications/performance, awards and medals, insurance, separation/discharge/retirement (including DD214) and administrative remarks. Recent military service and medical records are not online. Most veterans and next of kin can obtain free copies of a DD214 and other records via:

- Online eVetRecs available at www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs
- Mail or fax a SF180 available at www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/standard-form-180.html

Future of Veteran's Benefits

If you are concerned about the future of veteran benefits in America, The Symposium for the Needs of Young Veterans is the place to make your voice heard. Hosted by AMVETS, the Symposium is planned for October 18-21, 2006 at the Chicago Regency O'Hare Hotel.

From the Symposium web page: "One of the greatest and yet largely unrecognized challenges facing America is how we will provide for the needs of future veterans—especially those younger people who are serving in Iraq, Afghanistan and other parts of the world today. It's an issue we must address now if our nation is to keep its promise to those who defend us. The Symposium will bring together a diverse and representative group of veterans to discuss how to ensure a system of earned benefits that is both adequate and relevant to the needs of younger veterans including Guard and Reserve members." Among the several issues to be addressed are Benefits, Employment, Health Care, and Homeless Vets.

For more info on the Symposium visit www.veteransnationalsymposium.org

AZ Veterans:

Veterans license plates: www.azdvs.gov/licenseplates.htm

Arizona Enduring Freedom Memorial: www.enduringfreedomaz.com

Learn about your AZ Veteran's Advisory Commission: www.azdvs.gov/advmemberdirectory.htm

Vets Data Compromised

All of you should have received recent correspondence from the VA Secretary regarding compromised information for up to 26.5 million veterans and spouses. I have attached a copy of the correspondence with this newsletter emailing. I recommend you review the letter and the FAQ's in the event you suspect your information to be compromised.

Mentoring

If you are currently teaching (preferably 5+ years), and would be interested in mentoring new AZ Troop Teachers, please review notify the [AZ Troops to Teachers State Director](#), 800-830-2134. This mentoring will consist of guiding Troops interested in pursuing teaching, AZ certification, and benefits of belonging to the TTT family.

Web Page

Visit the "new and improved" Arizona Troops to Teachers web page.

www.ade.az.gov/troops2teachers

While you are there, please complete the online annual information update form if you haven't already done so.

Arizona Troops to Teachers

1535 West Jefferson
Bin #46, Room #121
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Phone: 800-839-2134 / Fax: 602-542-1141

John Scheuer, Director
jscheue@ade.az.gov
602-542-4257

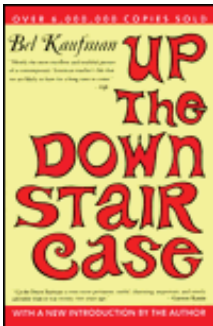
Josie Luna, Program Assistant
jluna@ade.az.gov
602-542-3201

"Proud to Serve Again"

www.proudtoserveagain.com
www.ade.az.gov/troops2teachers



www.pathway2teach.org



Up the Down Staircase

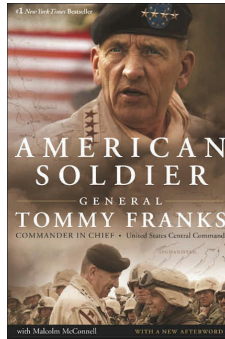
Bel Kaufman

In its 47 printings, *Up the Down Staircase* has sold more than 6 million copies, has been translated into 16 languages, and made into a prize-winning motion picture. This funny and touching story of a committed, idealistic high school teacher is now available in trade paperback, with a new introduction by the author.

Bel Kaufman's *Up the Down Staircase* is one of the best-loved novels of our time. It has been translated into sixteen languages, made into a prize-winning motion picture, and staged as a play at high schools all over the United States; its very title has become part of the American idiom.

Never before has a novel so compellingly laid bare the inner workings of a metropolitan high school. *Up the Down Staircase* is the funny and touching story of a committed, idealistic teacher whose dash with school bureaucracy is a timeless lesson for students, teachers, parents—anyone concerned about public education. Bel Kaufman lets her characters speak for themselves through memos, letters, directives from the principal, comments by students, notes between teachers, and papers from desk drawers and wastebaskets, evoking a vivid picture of teachers fighting the good fight against all that stands in the way of good teaching.

Recommended Reading



American Soldier

Tommy Franks

Few individuals have the chance to contribute so much of themselves to the American story as General Tommy Franks. In *American Soldier*, he captures it all.

The Commander in Chief of the United States Central Command from July 2000 through July 2003, General Tommy Franks made history leading American and Coalition forces to victory in Afghanistan and Iraq -- the decisive battles that launched the war on terrorism.

General Franks retraces his journey from a small-town boyhood through a lifetime of military service -- including his heroic tour as an Artillery officer in Vietnam, where he was wounded three times.

Drawing on military records declassified for this book, Franks offers the first true insider's account of the war on terrorism. He puts you in the Operations Center for the launch of Operation Enduring Freedom just weeks after 9/11, capturing its uncertain early days and the historic victory that followed.

When President Bush focused world attention on the threat of Iraq, Franks seized the moment to implement a bold new vision of joint warfare in planning Operation Iraqi Freedom. Rejecting Desert Storm-style massive troop deployment in favor of flexibility and speed, Franks was questioned by the defense establishment -- including Secretary of State Colin Powell. Yet his vision was proven on the ground: Within three weeks, Baghdad had fallen.

Franks describes the covert diplomacy that helped secure international cooperation for the war, and speaks frankly of intelligence shortcomings that endangered our troops, and of the credible WMD threats that influenced every planning decision. He offers an unvarnished portrait of the "disruptive and divisive" Washington bureaucracy, and a candid assessment of the war's aftermath. Yet in the end, as *American Soldier* demonstrates, the battles in Afghanistan and Iraq remain heroic victories -- wars of liberation won by troops whose valor was "unequalled," Franks writes, "by anything in the annals of war."

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, November 15, 2006
Thursday, November 16, 2006
Friday, November 17, 2006

Online Registration

Begins: August 14, 2006
Ends: October 16, 2006

Registration fee: \$295

<http://www.ade.az.gov/asd/MEGAConf/>

Sponsored by:

Academic Achievement Division



Arizona Department of
Education

Tom Horne
Superintendent of Public Instruction

2006 MEGA Conference

The 2006 MEGA Conference
will be located at:

The Wigwam Golf Resort & Spa
300 Wigwam Blvd
Litchfield Park, AZ 85340
(623) 935-3811

"Great Expectations"



Arizona Department of Education
Tom Horne, Superintendent of Public Instruction

Registration Reminder!

**2006 Structured English Immersion (SEI) Provisional
Endorsement Training (15 clock hours)**
August 14-16, 2006

Where: The Wigwam Resort
300 Wigwam Boulevard
Litchfield Park, Arizona 85340
Phone 623.935.3811 or 800.327.0396
www.wigwamresort.com

Cost: \$300.00 per person (includes *EAS Teacher of the Year* banquet)

*Note: registration increases to \$350 after
July 15, 2006 – register early!*

Schedule: Monday, August 14, 2006: 8:00AM - Registration opens; 11:00AM - Orientation Luncheon; Sessions continue through 4:00PM; 5:30PM - EAS Teacher of the Year Banquet. Tuesday, August 15 and Wednesday, August 16: sessions continue from 7:30AM-5:00PM.

Registration is Limited

Online Registration available June 1–August 4, 2006
at www.ade.az.gov/asd/lep/sei
Email Pat Scott with questions at pscott@ade.az.gov
or 602.364.1927





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and information for every
teacher in Arizona.*

www.ideal.azed.gov

INVITATION TO TEACHERS

IDEAL: Engaging, Technology-rich Learning Environment

IDEAL is not just a website but it is an access point for resources you can use immediately in your classroom. Here is what is available NOW:

- Online Professional Development – featuring a free 15- hour SEI course approved by ADE
- unitedstreaming™ - 4,000 streaming videos, an extensive clip art and image library, writing prompts and much more
- 5,000 curriculum based application software tutorials
- ASSET @ Home –Resources for students including activities to improve math skills
- **New** ADE Reference Library – A searchable online database of trade books aligned to the Arizona Science and Social Studies Standards
- **New** Formative Assessment Item Bank – An instructional assessment tool created especially for the classroom teacher. It contains thousands of questions that are strictly aligned with the Arizona State Standards
- Formative Strand and Concept Quizzes in Reading and Math – Ready-to-print quizzes with answer key and fully aligned to AZ standards, concepts and performance objectives
- Online Practice AIMS Test for students

IDEAL's ultimate goal is to improve student learning.

IDEAL is made possible through the Arizona Department of Education in partnership with Arizona State University and ASSET (Arizona School Services through Educational Technology).

To obtain your IDEAL login name and password, go to www.ideal.azed.gov

and follow instructions under **New Users**. If you need additional help, contact IDEAL's Helpdesk at 480-965-9411 or support@ideal.azed.gov.

IDEAL ADE Contact:

Cathy Poplin, *Director of Educational Technology, School Effectiveness Division*, 602-364-1349, cpoplin@ade.az.gov



Tom Horne
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

